

Amendments to the Specification:

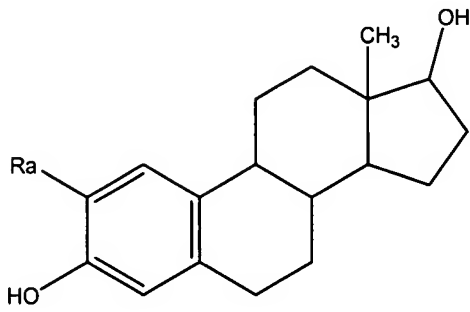
Please amend the specification as indicated below.

Page 1, line 5, please amend the title of the invention as indicated below:

METHOD FOR INHIBITING NEOVASCULARIZATION USING ESTROGENIC
COMPOUNDS AS ANTI-MITOTIC AGENTS

Page 18, lines 2-4, please amend the Abstract as indicated below:

A method of inhibiting neovascularization in a mammal comprises administering to the mammal a neovascularization-inhibiting amount of a compounds of the formula disclosed



wherein, R_a is $-OR_1$ or $-OCOR_1$, wherein R_1 is H, or a substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, alkenyl or alkynyl group of up to 6 carbons.

Page 4, first paragraph, please amend this paragraph as indicated below.

Fig. 3 ~~depicts:~~ part I. depicts the chemical formulae of colchicine, 2-methoxyestradiol and combretastatin A-4, and part II. illustrates estradiol derivatives that comprise structural motifs found in various derivatives comprising colchicine (A-e) or combretastatin A-4 (d) structural motifs as described below wherein, panel a shows an estradiol derivative with the A ring expanded from six to seven carbons, panel b shows an estradiol derivative with the B ring expanded from six to seven carbons, panel c shows an estradiol

derivative with both the A and the B ring expanded from six to seven carbons, and panel d shows an estradiol derivative with a partial B ring.

Page 14, line 29-page 15, line 9, please amend the two paragraphs as indicated below.

Figure 2 illustrates that 2-methoxyestradiol inhibits colchicine binding to tubulin. Reaction conditions were described in the text, with each reaction mixture containing 1.0 μ M tubulin, 5% (v/v) dimethyl sulfoxide, 5 μ M [3 H]colchicine, and inhibitor at the indicated concentrations. Incubation was for 10 min at 37° C. Symbols as follows: \square , 2-methoxyestradiol; \square , combretastatin A-4; \square , dihydrocombretastatin A-4. Combretastatin A-4 and dihydrocombretastatin A-4 are compounds with anti-mitotic activity similar to colchicine.

~~Example 4:~~

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Table 1 illustrates the inhibitory effects on tubulin polymerization in vitro exhibited by estradiol or estradiol derivatives, plant anti-mitotic compounds such as colchicine, combretastatin A-4 or other plant compounds. The method is given in Example 1.